

# DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING SERVICES DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION AND CODE COMPLIANCE

Marc Elrich County Executive Diane R. Schwartz Jones
Director

# GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING FIRE-RESISTIVE CONSTRUCTION IN HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS

## (A) BACKGROUND

The fire resistance of high-rise building structural components is critically important for building occupants and first responders. A maintenance program to return any damaged fire resistance-rated construction to its original condition is important. Damage or breaches to such materials can reduce or eliminate their fire-resistive characteristics, making them ineffective in the event of a fire. Periodic inspections will ensure that the fire-resistive construction has not lost its integrity.

### (B) FIRE CODE REQUIREMENTS

- 1. 2018 Edition of NFPA 1: Section 12.3.3 Maintenance of Fire Resistive Construction. Section includes, but is not limited to, the following: fire resistive joint systems, through penetration firestops, membrane penetrations, fire resistive coatings, spray-on materials, fire barriers, fire walls, exterior walls, draft stop partitions, and roof coverings.
  - a. All fire-resistive construction shall be maintained.
  - b. All fire-resistive construction shall be properly repaired, restored, or replaced where damaged, altered, breached, penetrated, removed, or improperly installed.

### 2. INSPECTION SCHEDULE:

a. Fire-resistive construction in high-rise buildings shall be visually inspected at least every three (3) years where readily accessible.

#### 3. OPERATIONAL PERMIT:

- a. An OPERATIONAL PERMIT will be issued by the Division of Fire Prevention and Code Compliance for any high-rise building containing fire-rated assemblies.
- b. A single permit for "Fire Rated Assemblies" will encompass all fire-resistive construction under section 12.3.3 of the 2018 NFPA 1, *Fire Code* for that building.

### (C) INSPECTION TECHNICIAN PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Persons performing the visual inspection of fire-resistive construction shall have the appropriate technical knowledge and experience in fire-resistance-rated design and construction.
- 2. Persons performing the visual inspection of fire-resistive construction shall submit the signed affidavit along with an inspection report of any found deficiencies to the DFPCC.

# (D) SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

1. When maintenance or visual inspection reveals a deficiency, the fire-resistive construction shall be repaired, replaced, or otherwise installed under permit from the Department of Permitting Services.

# AFFIDAVIT FOR FIRE-RESISTIVE CONSTRUCTION IN HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS

| ☐ I have technical knowledge of, and have e   | xperience in fire-resistive construction.  |
|---|--|
| □ I performed a visual inspection of the fire   | -resistive construction for the building located at  |
| (street address)  |  |
| ☐ There were no deficiencies found during t   | the visual inspection of the fire-resistive construction.  |
| $\hfill\Box$ There were deficiencies found during the the attached form.                  | visual inspection of the fire resistive construction. See  |
| the best of my knowledge and belief and that of the company, business, or organization re | Il matters and facts set forth in this affidavit are true to t I have the authority to make this application on behalf ferenced within. I further certify that I have a clear tructions and requirements set forth in this document. |
| Signature of Inspector:   | Date:  |
| Printed Name:   | Title:   |
| Signature of Witness:   | Date:  |
| I have personally observed this applicant's p   | photo ID, verifying identity.  |

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# FIRE-RESISTIVE CONSTRUCTION FOR HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS – DEFICIENCY REPORTING FORM

| Address:        |          |                           |
|-----------------|----------|---------------------------|
| Inspector Name: |          |                           |
| Email/phone:    |          |                           |
| Item #          | Location | Description of Deficiency |
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Date: